

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

Sub B4/ 1. A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:

a network;

5 a network management apparatus for managing said network; and

plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network,

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10 wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses transmits the state thereof to said network, said network management apparatus stores the states of said plural types of video apparatuses, and each of said plural types of video apparatuses inquires about the states of the other video apparatuses to said network  
15 management apparatus and then determines a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the states of the other video apparatuses which are obtained from said network management apparatus.

20 2. The broadcast storing and reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

3. A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:

25 a network; and

plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network,

wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses inquires about the states of the other video apparatuses through said network to the other video apparatuses and then determines a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the states of the other video apparatuses which are obtained from the other video apparatuses.

4. The broadcast storing and reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

5. A network management apparatus connected to a network to which plural types of video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

means for storing state of each of the video apparatuses when the video apparatus transmits the state thereof to said network, and

means for transmitting the states of the video apparatuses when each of the video apparatuses inquires about the states of the video apparatuses.

6. The network management apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type are connected to the network.

Sub B5/ 7. A video apparatus connected to a network to which a network management apparatus for managing the network and plural types of video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

5 means for transmitting the state thereof to said network, and;

means for inquiring about the states of other video apparatuses to said network management apparatus and then determining a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the states of said other video apparatuses which are obtained from said network management apparatus.

10 8. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

Sub B6/ 9. A video apparatus connected to a network to which plural types of video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

20 means for transmitting the state thereof to said network, and

means for inquiring about the states of other video apparatuses to said other video apparatuses and then determining a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the states of said other video apparatuses which are obtained from said other video

apparatuses.

10. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

5 11. A video apparatus connected to a network to which a plurality of other video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

means for transmitting and receiving a message having a protocol header having a transmitter node ID, a transmitter sub node ID, a transmission destination node ID, a transmission destination sub node ID, a request number, a message ID and a message length, and a message body.

12. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message further includes additional information, and said protocol header further includes an additional information length.

13. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a common interface message.

14. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a component management interface message.

15. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a second type component management interface message.

16. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a resource management interface message.

17. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a pin connection interface message.

18. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a second type pin connection interface message. [19. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a streaming interface message.]

20. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a file management interface message.

21. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a monitor interface message.

22. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a media synchronous interface message.

23. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a browser interface message.

24. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a recording reservation interface message.

25. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the message is a second type recording reservation

interface message.

a 26. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~,  
wherein the message is a layout interface message.

a 27. The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~,  
5 wherein the message is a layout sub interface message.

subB7 28. A broadcast receiving and storing apparatus which  
comprises:

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a broadcast receiving component for receiving a  
broadcast program;

10 broadcast storing components for storing broadcast  
programs;

a managing component for managing states of said  
broadcast storing components; and

15 a network for connecting said broadcast receiving  
component, said broadcast storing components and said  
managing component;

wherein said broadcast storing components send  
states thereof to said managing component through said  
network;

20 said managing component stores said states; and

said broadcast receiving component selects one or  
more broadcast storing components from said broadcast  
storing components as broadcast storing components which  
store a program which said broadcast receiving component

25 receives on the basis of states obtained from said

managing component through said network.

29. A broadcast receiving and storing apparatus which comprises:

a broadcast receiving component for receiving a  
5 broadcast program;

broadcast storing components for storing broadcast  
programs; and

a network for connecting said broadcast receiving  
component, and said broadcast storing components;

10 wherein said broadcast receiving component selects  
one or more broadcast storing components from said  
broadcast storing components as broadcast storing  
components which store a program which said broadcast  
receiving component receives on the basis of states  
15 obtained from said broadcast storing components through  
said network.

30. A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which  
comprises:

20 broadcast storing components for storing broadcast  
programs;

a broadcast displaying component for displaying a  
broadcast program;

a managing component for managing information on the  
broadcast programs stored in said broadcast storing  
25 components; and

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a network for connecting said broadcast storing components, said broadcast displaying component, and said managing component;

wherein said broadcast storing components send the  
5 information on the broadcast programs stored therein to said managing component through said network;

said managing component stores the information therein; and

said broadcast displaying component selects one or  
10 more broadcast storing components from said broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which reproduce a program which said broadcast displaying component displays on the basis of the information obtained from said managing component through said  
15 network.

31. A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:

broadcast storing components for storing broadcast programs;

20 a broadcast displaying component for displaying a broadcast program; and

a network for connecting said broadcast storing components, and said broadcast displaying component;

wherein said broadcast displaying component selects  
25 one or more broadcast storing components from said



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broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which reproduce a program which said broadcast displaying component displays on the basis of information on programs stored in said broadcast storing components obtained from said broadcast storing components through said network.

32. A video system which comprises:

a network; and

video components connected to said network;

wherein one of said video component is set in a state waiting for a trigger while other one or more video components are set in a placed state, and said video component set in the state waiting for the trigger sends a message corresponding to the trigger to said other one or more video components set in the placed state and said other one or more video components set in the placed state begin an operation corresponding to the message when the trigger is caused.

33. The video system as claimed in claim 32, wherein correspondence between the trigger and the message is determined by another message which is sent to said video component set in the state waiting for the trigger.

34. The video system as claimed in claim 32, wherein correspondence between the message and the operation is determined by another message which is sent to said one

or more video components set in the placed state.

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